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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

Shigekazu NAGAI et al.

U.S. Serial No. 10/000,349

Group Art Unit: 3682

Filing Date: December 12, 2001

Examiner: Joyce, Willam C

Title: Actuator

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

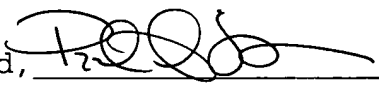
In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56, the attached form and document(s) indicate information of which the applicant(s) has/have recently become aware which may be relevant to the above-identified application.

The information is in the form of references which have been cited in a corresponding Office Action from the German Patent Office, dated May 19, 2004, as a foreign counterpart application to the present application.

A copy of the German Office Action is enclosed, along with copies of the four (4) references cited therein. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001-0002783 is also enclosed, which is a corresponding publication to German Publication No. DE 199 03 612, along with U.S. Patent No. 6,446,520, which corresponds to German Publication No. DE 198 82 926.

The Examiner is requested to indicate consideration of this information by initialing and returning a copy of the Information Disclosure Citation form (PTO-1449) attached herewith.

37 CFR 1.97(e) Statement. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

Signed, 
Paul A. Guss

Date: August 3, 2004

This information is being submitted after issuance of a final Office Action, but before payment of the issue fee. Hence, in accordance with the 37 CFR § 1.97(e) statement above, consideration of the submitted information is proper with payment of the IDS fee, which is enclosed.

Should it be deemed that any other fees are due in connection with this or any accompanying communication, authorization is given to charge such fees to the Attorney's Deposit Account No. 07-2519.

Respectfully submitted,



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